

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data processing apparatus comprising a display device for displaying characters and images, a display driver device that controls display of characters and images on the display device based on commands, a data processing section
5 that transmits instructions to the display driver device, and a command circuit that receives and analyzes commands to control flow of data to one of the display driver device and the data processing section,

the command circuit being responsive to one of the commands to change the flow of data from flowing to one of the display driver and the data processing section to flowing to the other of the display driver and the data processing section.
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2. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data processing section functions in one of an operation state and a low power consumption state, and shifts to the low power consumption state in response to a command to shift to the low power consumption state or if no command is received for a predetermined period of time.
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3. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data processing section functions in one of an operation state and a power-saving state, and shifts to the operation state in response to a command requiring processing by the data processing section and shifts to the power-saving state when the processing is completed.
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4. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein data to the data processing section includes display data, key-input data from a host CPU and communicated data from or to the host CPU.

5. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data processing
25 apparatus is one of a mobile phone, a hand-carry data terminal, a digital still camera, and an information home appliance.

6. A method of operating a data processing apparatus comprising a display device for displaying characters and images, a display driver device that controls display of characters and images on the display device based on commands, a data processing section that transmits instructions to the display driver device, and a command circuit that receives and analyzes commands, comprising:

controlling flow of data, by the data processing section, to one of the display driver device and the data processing section, and

responding to one of the commands to change the flow of data from flowing to one of the display driver and the data processing section to flowing to the other of the display driver and the data processing section.

7. A data processing method according to claim 6, further comprising operating the data processing section in one of an operation state and a low power consumption state, and shifting to the low power consumption state in response to a command to shift to the low power consumption state or if no command is received for a predetermined period of time.

8. A data processing method according to claim 6, further comprising operating the data processing section in one of an operation state and a power-saving state, and shifting to the operation state in response to a command requiring processing by the data processing section and shifting to the power-saving state when the processing is completed.

9. A data processing method according to claim 6, wherein data to the data processing section includes display data, key-input data from a host CPU, and communicated data from or to the host CPU.

10. A data processing method according to claim 6, wherein the data processing apparatus is one of a mobile phone, a hand-carry data terminal, a digital still camera, and an information home appliance.